



<http://www.mn-arts.org/>

February 2015 Edition

From the President

Just wanted to remind everyone that this Saturday's meeting will begin at **11:00 AM** for our buildathon and go until 4:00 PM. Many of us will be working on the AA0ZZ designed 40M receiver kit, but if you didn't get one ordered please stop by and bring something else to work on or just hang out and encourage the rest. There will be a few extra solder stations available to use, but if you have one it would be a good idea to bring it. Also, since we will be there over the lunch hour and a few hours more, feel free to bring snacks to share with the group. We will try to provide water bottles and coffee, but if someone wants to bring another drink, that would be great as well.

I also wanted to pass on some information regarding changes made / announced at the last meeting. First of all, annual membership dues are now due in March. The club voted to make the annual \$20 a recommended amount, but we encourage everyone to contribute something - more or less - whatever you can do. We don't want anyone to be left out of membership because of the cost. Also, in order to encourage younger and newer hams, we voted to make membership free for anyone 24 and under with a completed application. Also any new ham (less

than one year) will get their first year of membership free with a completed application.

We also announced that **beginning with the April 4th meeting** we will be changing the meeting times to **1:00 to 4:00 PM**. This will allow us to have more social time during the breaks and afterwards without feeling like we're rushed to get out of the room. So mark your calendars so you won't be late!

Finally we are getting an order together to get club name tags - cost is \$8. If you are interested please contact Steve Ulrich, NW0C, at ulrichs@comcast.net or see him at the meeting on Saturday.

Hope to see all of you Saturday for a fun day and let me know if you have any questions.

73 de chuck ka8hde

February Meeting Minutes

Chuck Stroud, KA8HDE, called the meeting to order at 1:30 PM. 22 were in attendance.

Introductions were made which included everyone's favorite operating mode. Just about all modes were represented, with CW appearing to be favored by a majority.

Old Business:

- The January meeting minutes were approved.
- Paul Bushouse, N0TYE, reports that there is \$1703.31 in the club account.
- The March Build-a-Thon will be 3/7 with the hours of: 11 AM – 4 PM. Bring some food to share.
- Craig Johnson, AA0ZZ, showed us the two versions of the kit available for the Build-a-Thon. One is crystal controlled, the other uses a VFO. Craig then gave us a demonstration of both versions. Cost of the kit is \$25.
- Everyone should print out a copy of the manual for the Build-a-Thon.

New Business:

- Chuck, KA8HDE, reviewed items discussed at the recent Board meeting.
- Club dues were discussed and it was agreed that starting next month that club dues would be a suggested \$20. Members could give more or less based on their ability or desire. Also, there would be no dues for those under 24 and those newly licensed provided they fill out the application form. A motion was made to this effect and carried.
- The club will get a table at the upcoming Mid Winter Madness event. Please bring items to display at the club table.

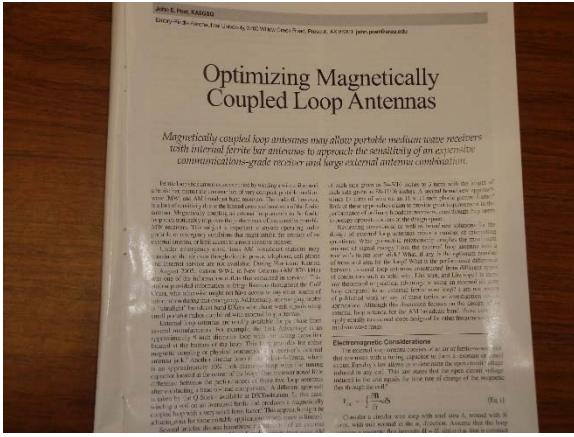
- An order for name tags will be placed and a list was passed around for those who wanted one to sign up. Cost is \$8.
- Advertising for the club was discussed. It was suggested that the club get some handouts the size of QSL cards that could be used at events and given out to new hams.
- There was some discussion about using the reflector. The group was encouraged to use it more.

Show & Tell

Chuck Stroud, KA8HDE, brought in a box of #1 coin envelopes which are useful for storing small parts. He handed them out to the group.

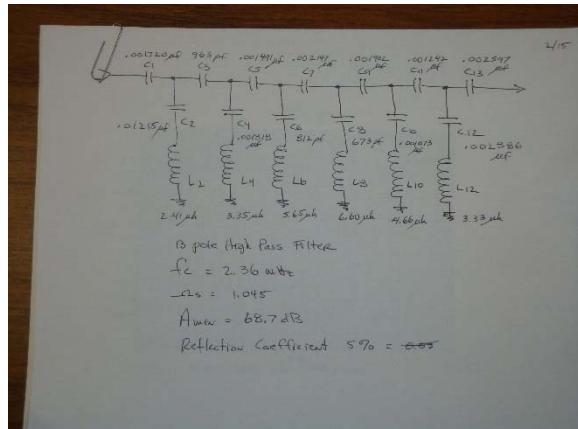
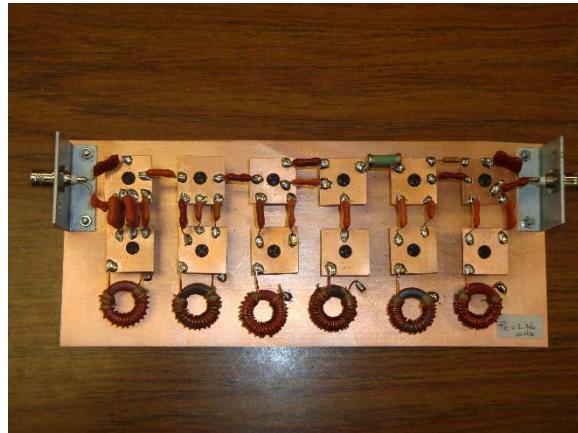
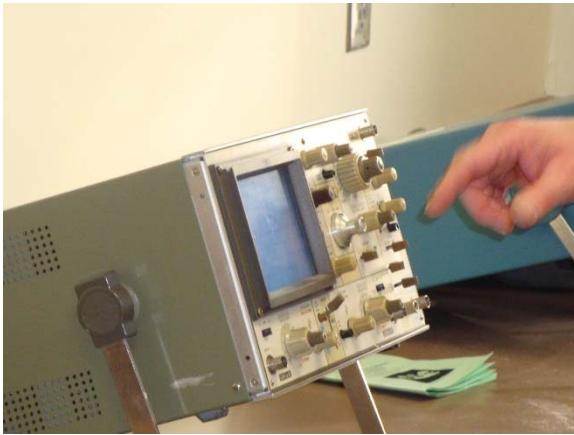
John Krawczak, KJ0P, brought in the February 2015 QEX article on: Optimizing Magnetically Coupled Loop Antennas. This tied in nicely with previous discussions and projects involving ferrite bar antennas.





Craig Siegenthaler, W7BGO, brought in a Hitachi oscilloscope which he offered to the club. He explained how the delayed sweep works and the benefit of using it. He also brought in a programmable DC voltmeter.

Additionally, Craig brought in his latest project which is a low pass filter which rejects AM broadcast. He explained how he constructed it and the issues he ran into. The unit can handle 250 watts. Very nice job!!



Bede Willenbring, WA0QNV, brought in some 555 timer chips for anyone that could use them.



Mike Burk, KD0JYE, showed us the AM radio he has been working on. He built it in three stages. He currently is using a synchronous detector built around an NE612 IC. Nice work!!



Doug Marsh, N8TUT, brought in an Arduino based component tester he recently acquired. It provides capacitance, inductance & resistance. Cost was around \$20.

Steve Ulrich, NW0C, brought in a regulator built around an LM317 that also included a bridge rectifier on the input and an LCD volt display. Price from China was \$5.77. He also brought in a magnifying lamp he recently acquired and a newly built EZ Keyer.

Dave Kent, W0RU, participated in the Minnesota QSO party using the club call AA0MN.

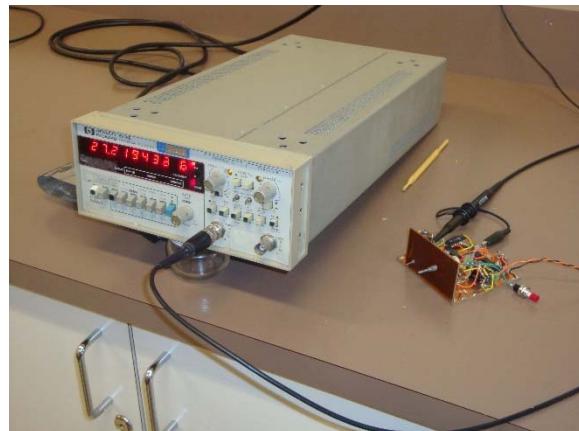


January Presentation

Bob Liesenfeld, WB0POQ gave us a presentation on the “Huff & Puff” frequency stabilizer. He explained that it was a form of PLL and needed a fairly stable VFO with temperature compensation. Bob showed us why the circuit was so named along with its benefits and some shortcomings. For those interested he recommended the URL:

www.hanssummers.com/huffpuff.html

Thank you for a very interesting presentation!!



Respectfully submitted,
Steve, NW0C

Club Officers:

President: Chuck Stroud/KA8HDE
Vice Pres: Russ Ramirez/K0WFS
Secretary: Steve Ulrich/NW0C
Treasurer: Paul Bushouse/N0TYE
At Large: Craig Johnson/AA0ZZ

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